



The Wrong Loan Can Cost **YOU** Your Home

The City of San José, in a unique partnership with Bay Area Legal Aid, the California Association of Mortgage Brokers (CAMB), Fair Housing Law Project, Freddie Mac, Neighborhood Housing Services Silicon Valley, Pro Bono Project Silicon Valley, Project Sentinel, the Santa Clara County Association of Realtors (SCCAOR), Silicon Valley/South Bay Saves (a local financial literacy campaign), and Working Partnerships USA, has developed an outreach and education campaign to protect residents against harmful predatory mortgage lending practices.

This campaign, **Don't Borrow Trouble Silicon Valley (DBTSV)**, will assist those residents most vulnerable to abusive lending practices including recent immigrants, residents of low-income minority neighborhoods, seniors, and persons with limited English skills.

The outreach and education campaign includes:

- An educational website, www.sjhousing.org;
- A referral line to assist consumers during any stage of the lending process, 408-283-1284;
- Educational brochures highlighting "10 Things You Should Do Before Signing on the Dotted Line", shopping for the right mortgage, and how to avoid predatory lending practices;
- Multi-media advertisements;
- Educational symposiums and presentations; and
- Informational tables at community events.

On December 3rd, the group will sponsor a series of workshops covering all stages of the home mortgage process including budgeting, opening a bank account, credit and credit repair, reading a loan document, protecting against predatory mortgage lending practices, and tips to post-purchase success. This event will be provided free to the public. DBTSV will offer two additional symposiums in the first half of 2006, on March 4th and June 3rd.